

SWAMI HARSHANANDA

Swami Harshanandaji, President, Ramakrishna Math, Bangalore, presents Śrī-sāradā-prapattih, his offering to Holy Mother on her 146th birth anniversary, which falls on 29 December this year. The letters with which the first three lines of each stanza begin make up the mantra Om śrī-sāradā-devyai-namo.

> ओंकारवेद्यस्य परात्परस्य श्रीरामकृष्णस्य पराऽस्य शक्तिः। सा मे गतिर्मुक्तिफलं च तस्याः श्रीसारदायाश्चरणौ प्रपद्ये॥

I take refuge at the feet of Sri Sarada Devi who is the Supreme Power of Sri Ramakrishna, who is greater than the greatest and the Truth that can be known through Om (the *pranava*). She is the goal of (my life) and the fruit of (my efforts, namely,) *mukti*

or liberation (from transmigratory existence).

रमा त्वमेवासि शिवा च वाणी दासोऽस्मि नित्यं भवरोगयुक्त:। देवात्मशक्तेर्जगदुद्धवाया: श्रीसारदायाश्चरणौ प्रपद्ये॥

I take refuge at the feet of Sri Sarada Devi who is the soul-power of God, responsible for the creation of the world. (O Mother Sarada!) you are Ramā (Lakṣmī), Śivā (Pārvatī) and Vāņī (Sarasvatī). I, who am afflicted with the illness of samsara (bondage of birth and death), am your eternal slave.

व्यैकारयुक्तं परमं च मन्त्रं नवैश्व वर्णेर्घटितं पठेद्यः। मोहात्प्रमुच्येत नरः स यस्याः श्रीसारदायाश्चरणौ प्रपद्ये॥

I take refuge at the feet of Sri Sarada Devi by repeating whose supreme, nine-lettered mantra, Om śrī-sāradā-devyai-namaḥ, which contains the letter vyai, a human being is freed from all delusion.

